



78746

#9 GAU2713 26/3

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application

) Art Unit: 2713

Applicant: Wachtfogel, et.al.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. Listed documents are foreign patents and cited references that are discussed in the application, and are enclosed herewith.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

By Gerald T. Shekleton
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Dated: February 22, 2001

Enclosures:

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Sheet 1 of 1

(Rev. 5/92) Comparable to Form PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. 78746 RECEIVED <i>FFR 28 2001</i>	Serial No. 09/515,118
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant: <i>Technology Center 2600</i> Wachtfogetl, et.al.,	
		Filing Date February 28, 2001	Group 2713

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A	5,578,257	05/1998	Herz, et.al.			
		5,664,948	09/1997	Dimitriadis, et.al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		WO 97/17774	5/1997	PCT			Abs.	
		WO 98/37696	8/1998	PCT			Abs.	
		WO 98/28869	7/1998	PCT			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.